

The National Conference on Weights and Measures Overview

The National Conference on Weights and Measures, Inc. is a standards development organization for weights and measures regulatory agencies of the states, counties, and cities of the United States, as well as for federal agency use. The Annual Meeting of the Conference brings together government officials and representatives of business, industry, trade associations, and consumer organizations for the purpose of hearing and discussing subjects that relate to the field of weights and measures technology and administration.

The programs of the National Conference on Weights and Measures and its committees explore the broad area of this economically important segment of governmental regulatory service. The Conference develops and recommends laws and regulations, technical codes for weighing and measuring devices used in commerce, test methods, enforcement procedures, and administrative guidelines for adoption by regulatory agencies in the interest of promoting uniformity of requirements and methods among state and local jurisdictions.

A major objective of the National Conference on Weights and Measures is to foster understanding and cooperation among weights and measures officials and all industrial, business, and consumer interests. The Conference has been cited on numerous occasions for its outstanding success.

The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) has statutory responsibility for “cooperation with the states in securing uniformity of weights and measures laws and methods of inspection.” In partial fulfillment of this responsibility, the Institute is pleased to publish this document for the Conference.

The policy of NIST is to use metric units of measurement in all of its publications; however, in this publication, recommendations received by the NCWM technical committees have been printed as they were submitted and, therefore, may contain references only to inch-pound units. Opinions expressed in non-NIST papers are those of the authors and not necessarily those of NIST. Non-NIST contributors are solely responsible for the content and quality of their material.